



DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

# NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## **Virginia Holds Outreach Forum for Small, Women and Minority-owned Businesses ~ Capitol Restoration and Extension Project Provides Employment Opportunities ~**

RICHMOND, VA – The upcoming three-year comprehensive Virginia Capitol Restoration and Extension Project will provide many economic opportunities for Small, Women and Minority-owned (SWAM) businesses.

The Virginia Department of General Services (DGS), working in conjunction with the project's construction manager, Gilbane/Christman, and its architectural firm, The Hillier Group, Inc, will host a Small, Women and Minority-owned Business Outreach Forum for the Virginia Capitol Restoration and Extension project. The forum will be held Thursday, April 22 on the main lobby floor in conference room D in the James Monroe Building located at 101 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Street. There will be two sessions; the first session will be from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and the second session will be from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

“As part of any construction project we make an effort to let businesses know about the job opportunities available,” said James T. Roberts, Director of the Department of General Services. “Over the duration of this project as many as 250 jobs could be created which could potentially represent between 40-to-50 different companies. Jobs are available and this is a great opportunity for small, women and minority-owned businesses.”

DGS is aiming to maximize participation from SWAM businesses on the Capitol Restoration and Extension Project. Gilbane, one of the construction managers for the project, has experienced prior success in gaining participation from the Richmond SWAM community. In a recent project for the Medical College of Virginia Gilbane achieved 22 percent SWAM business participation on the new 185,000 square foot Gateway Hospital. DGS has also been successful by reaching approximately 15 percent participation from SWAM businesses on the restoration of the Old State Library which is still underway.

This forum is an opportunity for SWAM businesses to learn more about the project and meet with the DGS, the construction manager and the architectural firm. Leaders in the banking, insurance, and bonding industries experienced in facilitating minority-owned businesses will also be available. Reservations are required. To make a reservation, contact Sandy Showalter at 301-317-6133 or by e-mail at [sshowalter@gilbaneco.com](mailto:sshowalter@gilbaneco.com).

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